WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A compound of formula (I),

$$R_{1-3}$$
 R_4
 B
 C
 R_{5-7}
 (I)

or a pharmaceutically suitable salt or prodrug thereof, wherein

A is a member selected from the group consisting of

B and C are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of aryl, and heterocycle;

 R_1 is a member a member selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkoxy, alkylSO₂, trifluoroalkylSO₂, trifluoroalkylNH-, alkylSO₂NH-, carboxy, cyano, HONHcarbonyl, R_aONHcarbonyl, nitro, R_aOC(O)-, HO₃S-, H₂NO₂S-, R_aNHO₂S-, (HO)₂(O)PCH₂-, (HO)₂(O)PCHF-, (HO)₂(O)PCF₂- and heterocycle, wherein said heterocycle is a member selected from the group consisting of:

 R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 and R_7 are each independently absent or are independently a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, arylcarbonyl, arylalkyl, carboxy, carboxyalkyl, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, halo, haloalkyl, heterocycle, heterocyclecarbonyl, heterocyclealkyl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, nitro, trihaloalkyl, R_aR_bN , R_aR_bN alkyl, R_aR_bN alkyl, R_aR_bN carbonyl, R_aR_bN carbonyl, R_aR_bN sulfonyl, R_aR_bN sulfonylalkyl, wherein R_a and R_b are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocycle, and heterocyclealkyl;

L is $-G-X_1-J-X_2-K-$ or a bond;

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G, J and K are independently a member selected from the group consisting of a bond, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl and cycloalkyl, wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, aryl and cycloalkyl may be optionally substituted with a group consisting of alkoxy, alkyl, halogen, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, carboxy and R_dR_eN-, wherein R_d and R_e are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl and arylalkyl;

 X_1 and X_2 are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of a bond, -O-, $-N(R_c)$ -, $-N(R_c)C(O)$ -, $-C(O)N(R_c)$ -, $-N(R_c)S(O)_2$ -, $-S(O)_2N(R_c)$ -, and -C(O)-, wherein R_c is a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and arylalkyl; and

provided that if J is absent, then at least one of X_1 and X_2 must be absent.

2. A compound of formula (II),

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$$R_1$$
 R_2
 R_4
 R_5
 R_7
 R_7
 R_7

or a pharmaceutically suitable salt or prodrug thereof, wherein

R₁ is a member selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkoxy, alkylSO₂, trifluoroalkylSO₂, trifluoroalkylNH-, alkylSO₂NH-, carboxy, cyano, HONHcarbonyl, R_aONHcarbonyl, nitro, R_aOC(O)-, HO₃S-, H₂NO₂S-, R_aNHO₂S-, (HO)₂(O)PCH₂-, (HO)₂(O)PCH₇-, (HO)₂(O)PCF₇- and heterocycle, wherein said heterocycle is a member selected from the group consisting of:

R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅, R₆ and R₇ are each independently absent or are independently a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, arylalkyl, carboxy, carboxyalkyl, cyano, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, halo, haloalkyl, heterocycle, heterocyclecarbonyl,

heterocyclealkyl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, nitro, trihaloalkyl, R_aR_bN , R_aR_bN alkyl, R_aR_bN carbonyl, , R_aR_bN carbonylalkyl, R_aR_bN nsulfonyl, R_aR_bN nsulfonylalkyl, wherein R_a and R_b are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocycle, and heterocyclealkyl;

L is $-G-X_1-J-X_2-K-$ or a bond;

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G, J and K are independently a member selected from the group consisting of a bond, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl and cycloalkyl, wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, aryl and cycloalkyl may be optionally substituted with a group consisting of alkoxy, alkyl, halogen, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, carboxy and R_dR_eN-, wherein R_d and R_e are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl and arylalkyl;

 X_1 and X_2 are each independently a member selected from the group consisting of a bond, -O-, $-N(R_c)$ -, $-N(R_c)C(O)$ -, $-C(O)N(R_c)$ -, $-N(R_c)S(O)_2$ -, $-S(O)_2N(R_c)$ -, and -C(O)-, wherein R_c is a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and arylalkyl; and

provided that if J is absent, then at least one of X_1 and X_2 must be absent.

- 3. The compound according to claim 2, wherein
 G is a member selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkenyl and cycloalkyl.
- 4. The compound according to claim 2, wherein
 G is a member selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkenyl and cycloalkyl;
 and

 X_1 , J and K are a bond.

The compound according to claim 2, whereinG is a member selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkenyl and cycloalkyl;

 X_1 , J and K are a bond; and R_1 is CO_2H .

3-carboxylic acid;

- 6. The compound according to claim 5, a member selected from the group consisting of 5-(3-((1E)-3-(3-hydroxy-2-(methoxycarbonyl)phenoxy)prop-1-enyl)phenyl)isoxazole-
- 5-(3-(3-hydroxy-2-(methoxycarbonyl)phenoxy)butyl)phenyl)isoxazole-3-

carboxylic acid;

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5-(3-((2-(3-hydroxy-2-(methoxycarbonyl)phenoxy)ethyl)amino)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-(3-(3-hydroxy-2-(methoxycarbonyl)phenoxy)propyl)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid;

5-(2-fluoro-5-((1E)-3-(3-hydroxy-2-(methoxycarbonyl)phenoxy)prop-1-enyl)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-((1E)-3-(3-hydroxy-2-nitrophenoxy)prop-1-enyl)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid;

10 5-(3-((1S,2S)-2-((3-hydroxy-2-

(methoxycarbonyl)phenoxy)methyl)cyclopropyl)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-(3-(3-hydroxy-2-(methoxycarbonyl)phenoxy)butyl)-4-methoxyphenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid;

5-(4-fluoro-3-(3-(3-hydroxy-2-(methoxycarbonyl)phenoxy)butyl)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-(3-(3-hydroxy-2-(methoxycarbonyl)phenoxy)pentyl)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-((1E)-3-(3-hydroxy-2-propionylphenoxy)prop-1-enyl)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-((1E)-4-hydroxy-3-(3-hydroxy-2-(methoxycarbonyl)phenoxy)but-1-enyl)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid;

5-(1-(2-(3-hydroxy-2-(methoxycarbonyl)phenoxy)ethyl)-1H-indol-6-yl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-((1E)-3-(2-(acetylamino)-3-hydroxyphenoxy)prop-1-enyl)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-((1E)-3-(2-((benzylamino)carbonyl)-3-hydroxyphenoxy)prop-1-enyl)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-((1E)-3-(3-hydroxy-2-(methoxycarbonyl)-4-nitrophenoxy)prop-1-enyl)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid;

4-amino-5-(3-((1E)-3-(3-hydroxy-2-(methoxycarbonyl)phenoxy)prop-1-enyl)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-((1E)-3-((3',5-dihydroxy-4-(methoxycarbonyl)-1,1'-biphenyl-3-yl)oxy)prop-1-

enyl)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid; and $5-(3-\{(1E)-3-(3-hydroxy-2-(methoxycarbonyl)phenoxy)prop-1-enyl\}phenyl)-4-(hydroxymethyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid.$

- 5 7. The compound according to claim 2, wherein X_1 is a member selected from the group consisting of -NH- and -NHC(O)-.
 - 8. The compound according to claim 2, wherein X₁ is a member selected from the group consisting of -NH- and -NHC(O)-; and G and K are a bond.
 - The compound according to claim 2, wherein
 X₁ is a member selected from the group consisting of -NH- and -NHC(O)-;
 G and K are a bond; and
 R₁ is CO₂H.
 - 10. The compound according to claim 9, a member selected from the group consisting of 5-(3-(((1-acetylpiperidin-4-yl)carbonyl)amino)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid; 5-(3-((2-(3-hydroxy-2-
- 20 ((methylamino)carbonyl)phenoxy)ethyl)amino)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid; and 5-(3-((1E)-3-(3-hydroxy-2-((methylamino)carbonyl)phenoxy)prop-1-enyl)phenyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid.
 - 11. The compound according to claim 2 wherein L is a bond.

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- 12. The compound according to claim 2 wherein L is a bond; and R_1 is CO_2H .
- 13. The compound according to claim 12 that is 5-{3'-(3-(carboxy)isoxazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-3-yl}isoxazole-3-carboxylic acid.
- 14. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically suitable carrier.

- 15. A method of selectively inhibiting protein tyrosine phosphatase 1B comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically suitable carrier.
- 5 16. A method of treating disorders caused by overexpressed or altered protein tyrosine phosphatase 1B comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically suitable carrier.
- 17. A method of treating type I and type II diabetes, impared glucose tolerance and insulin resistance, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically suitable carrier.

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- 18. A method of treating obesity comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically suitable carrier.
- 19. A method of treating autoimmune disorders, acute and chronic inflammatory disorders, osteoporosis, cancer, malignant disorders comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically suitable carrier.